

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action dated May 12, 2009. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments provided above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 4-23 are currently pending in the Application. Claims 1, 15 and 17 are independent claims. Claims 16-23 are added by this amendment.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claim 5 is allowable. Applicants have elected to add claim 17 which corresponds to claim 5 provided in independent form. Accordingly, consideration and allowance of claim 17 is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 4, 8-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,730,100 to Yamaguchi ("Yamaguchi"). Claims 6, 7, 11 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yamaguchi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,430,813 to Muraguchi ("Muraguchi"). The rejection of claims 1, 4-16 and 18-23 is respectfully traversed. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 4-16 and 18-23 are allowable over Yamaguchi alone and in view of Muraguchi for at least the following reasons.

Yamaguchi shows a depilating device including a housing and a driving unit provided in the housing to drive the hair removing device (see, Yamaguchi, abstract). The housing is made of two half housing 7, 7. A motor 3 and a drive transmission section are provided in a base 8 and the base is provided in the housing. A plug 9 for electric supply is provided in a bottom of the housing 1 (see, Yamaguchi, FIGs. 1, 7 and Col. 3, lines 25-31). As clear from FIG. 1 and FIG. 26 cited in the Office Action, the base 8 does not enclose the motor 3, but in fact is open on the bottom portion. Further, it is clear that the base 8 does not enclose a space between a shaving head holder and the plug 9.

It is respectfully submitted that the apparatus of claim 1 is not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Yamaguchi. For example, Yamaguchi does not teach, disclose or suggest, an apparatus that amongst other patentable elements, comprises (illustrative emphasis provided) "a shaving head holder support carrying a shaving head holder to which the at least one shaving head is mounted, wherein the shell extends at least from a face against which the at least one shaving head holder support is mounted to a power plug socket at an end of the housing opposite from the face against which the at least one shaving head holder

support is mounted, wherein the shell structure fully envelopes the housing at least between the face against which the at least one shaving head holder support is mounted and the power plug socket, and wherein the housing extends at least from the face against which the at least one shaving head holder support is mounted to the power plug socket fully enclosing a space between the face and the power plug socket" as recited in claim 1 and as similarly recited in claim 15. Clearly, the base 8, 12 of Yamaguchi, which the Office Action equates to the housing of the present apparatus, does not enclose a space between the shaving head holder and the power plug.

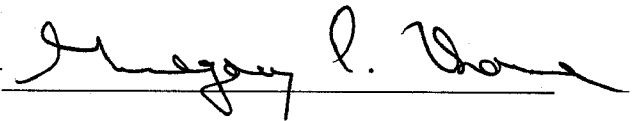
Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 15 patentable over Yamaguchi and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Claims 4-16 and 18-23 respectively depend from one of claims 1 and 15 and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the

foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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